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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## Baptists And Religious Liberty

**REJOICING WELCOMES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**—Richmond, Va., Dec. 16, 1775—Baptists in Virginia rejoiced in the vote by the Virginia General Assembly adopting Thomas Jefferson's "Act to establish religious freedom." The support of the declaration guaranteed "that all men shall be free to profess and . . . maintain their opinions in matters of religion . . ." (Used with permission of the Historical Commission, S.B.C.)

### Wrapup

## Baptists Take Look At Their Own History

By W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON (BP) — More than 200 representatives of nine major Baptist bodies in the United States took a hard, honest look at themselves and their role in the American experience during the National Baptist Bicentennial Convocation Jan. 12-15.

There was unanimous recognition that Baptists were significantly influential in the formation of the national policy of religious liberty during the 30 year period, 1770 to 1800.

However, since that time, speaker after speaker asserted, Baptists did not uniformly follow through in their insistence on religious liberty for all groups.

Also, many expressed a strong feeling that the concept of freedom in the United States should be expanded beyond the traditional emphasis on "separation of church and state" to include the entire gamut of human

rights, justice for all groups, and equality for all races.

The convocation, the only national all-Baptist event planned for the Bicentennial year, was planned and coordinated by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington at the request of the North American Baptist Fellowship.

"We are here because we believe that the observance of the Bicentennial has profound implications for the community of faith as well as the nation as a whole. Furthermore, we believe the Bicentennial is far more than a celebration of 200 years of America's nationhood," declared James E. Wood Jr., the Joint Committee's executive director.

"We perceive that the Bicentennial must mean a call to a deeper self-awareness of the American experience and the real meaning for today of the

(Continued on page 2)

FORT WORTH (BP) — In 60 seconds or less a message about the world's sponsor, Jesus Christ, slips nearly into the station break of prime time radio and television.

Southern Baptist churches across the 12.5 million member denomination, while maintaining a strong pulpit ministry, more and more are turning to the broadcast medium to present the Christian message.

While the Sunday morning or evening worship service is in no danger of air time obsolescence, many Baptist churches are going to one-minute spot announcements. Most of these Christian commercials are produced by TimeRite, Inc., with offices in Dallas and Wilmington, N.C., as the advertising arm of the denomination's Radio and Television Commission.

"Whatever a church allocates for such a project is what it's going to cost," said W. C. Woody, TimeRite president. "We take the budget the church sets and try to achieve its objectives of reaching the most people for the money."

Time Rite often proposes a cap-

### Baptist Pastor To Run For Governor In North Carolina

By Robert O'Brien

KANNAPOLIS, N.C. (BP) — Coy Privette says he will resign as pastor of North Kannapolis Baptist Church here to seek the Republican nomination to run for governor of North Carolina.

The 42-year-old pastor, who says he will not turn his back on preaching and ministry in or out of the governor's office, is president of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention and former president of the Christian Action League, a non-partisan, interdenominational group in the state.

"I really dismissed it at first," Privette told Baptist Press in commenting on early suggestions that he run. "But I said I would leave the door open. Lack of Christian citizenship is why we

(Continued on page 2)

Funeral services were held at Cherry Creek Baptist Church, on Thursday afternoon, January 20, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Joe Herndon, pastor of Cherry Creek Church, and Dr. Kelly, officiating. Interment was at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Kelly is survived by his wife, Lillian; one son, Ernest Earl Kelly Jr., and five grandchildren.

(Continued on page 2)

## Committee Urges Support For Persecuted Christians

ATLANTA (BP) — A call for "Intercession for Persecuted Christians" was issued by the 48-member International Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization meeting here.

The committee, an outgrowth of the 1974 World Congress on Evangelization in Lausanne, Switzerland, specifically noted Georgi Vins, a dissident Soviet Baptist

pastor who has been sentenced to five years in a labor camp and another five years exile in Siberia.

The committee said it "is painfully aware of the many areas of the world . . . which are closed to or which severely restrict an open proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are deeply moved by the faithfulness of ma-

ny Christians in those areas" . . . who suffer affliction and persecution.

"We commend these persecuted Christians and their families to the care and ardent intercession of their fellow Christians throughout the world, that God may sustain them in their faith, grant them freedom and open those areas again for an unhindered evangelization," the statement said.

In other action, the committee elected evangelist Leighton Ford

(Continued On Page 8)

## 1000th Baptist Student Campus Program Begun

KOKOMO, Ind. (BP) — Southern Baptist student work passed a milestone here with the beginning of the 1000th Baptist student ministry program on a college campus.

The program at the University of Indiana at Kokomo represents

Many of the new ministries since 1969 have been launched by volunteer or part-time workers, such as Mrs. Mary Jefferson, who serves as the volunteer director of the new program at the University of Indiana at Kokomo.

Bill Latham has announced his resignation as consultant with the

University of Indiana at Kokomo

### Latham Takes Sunday School Board Position

Bill Latham has announced his

approach away from the stained-glass setting and far from the "turn or burn" shouts of some Christians in broadcasting. The commercials may be set on a tennis court, golf course, in family groups. A film for First Baptist Church, Muskogee, Okla., featured a submarine in the middle of a prairie.

The messages related to realistic situations, offer God's love as an option for living and encourage listeners to seek God's way

for solving problems.

Some pastors recognize that Madison Avenue, at great expense has proved that television advertising pays. "The person you really want to reach may not give you a half-hour on Sunday morning but won't turn you off if you come one for one short minute in the middle of a popular television show," said Morris Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, N.M.

A professional surveyor hired by

the church indicated the capsule approach is the "best way to appeal to the non-Christian, non-church goer . . ."

In New Orleans, J. Truett Gannon, pastor of First Baptist Church there, became convinced of spot advertising's effectiveness when his congregation purchased 30-second slots to present the church to an estimated 220,000 people watching NFL Monday night football.

(Continued on page 3)

### Church-State Separation

## "Not Abandonment" Says Mississippi Congressman

STARKVILLE — Congressman David Bowen said here today that separation of church and state "as conceived by our Founding Fathers does not mean abandonment of the religious and moral foundations of our society."

Bowen's comments came during the keynote address for the 28th annual Church and Community Leadership Institute on the campus of Mississippi State University.

Bowen pointed out that such leaders as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and John Adams all stressed the close relationship of religious faith and the basic freedoms of our society.

Dr. Kelly's Father, Dies At Age 82

Ernest Earl Kelly Sr., 82, father of Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, died at Union County Hospital, New Albany, on Tuesday, January 27, after an extended illness.

Funeral services were held at Cherry Creek Baptist Church, on Thursday afternoon, January 20, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Joe Herndon, pastor of Cherry Creek Church, and Dr. Kelly, officiating. Interment was at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Kelly is survived by his wife, Lillian; one son, Ernest Earl Kelly Jr., and five grandchildren.

(Continued on page 2)

The Congressman noted that in his farewell address, Washington said, "Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles."

And, Bowen said, Washington added in another message that

## Commission Opposes Wine, Pari-Mutuel Bills

House Bill 479 (O'Keefe, Levi, Cossar) would allow local option permitting wagering on horse racing upon approval in any country where the facilities are to be located. It was reported in the Jackson papers that race tracks would be built on the Gulf Coast. It has also been rumored that DeSoto County would be another likely location. A Gulf Coast television station recently made editorial comment in favor of the local option plan, according to a Gulf Coast pastor.

The Native Wine Bill, Senate Bill 2172 (Burgen, Bodron), is similar to one introduced in the past two legislative sessions. In the 1975 session, the bill passed the Senate but died in the House. It is reported that large investments in grape arbors are being made within the state, anticipating passage of the bill. The bill would authorize the manufacture and sale of "native wine" in Mississippi in any county where alcoholic beverages may be sold.

Native wine is defined as "any product having an alcoholic content up to 21 per cent by weight which would be 51.4 proof." The

(Continued on page 2)

### January Receipts Pass Budget For Month

Cooperative Program receipts for January through the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board from churches of the convention amounted to \$714,075.

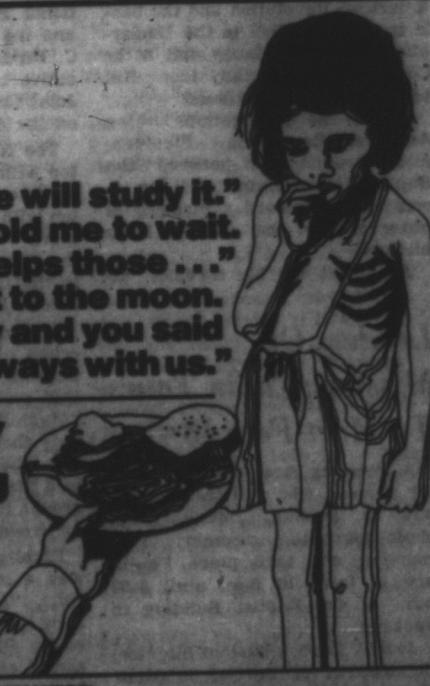
The Cooperative Program is the Southern Baptist Convention system of a voluntary, unified budget whereby the state convention and national convention agencies and missions efforts are financed.

The receipts for the first month of the new year were \$105,742 above the budget figure for one

(Continued on page 2)

I was hungry and you said "We will study it."  
I was hungry and you told me to wait.  
I was hungry and you said "God helps those . . ."  
I was hungry and you went to the moon.  
I was hungry and you said  
"The poor are always with us."

I WAS HUNGRY,  
AND YOU  
FED ME.



THE MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

# GET A HEAD START ON TOMORROW

OBSERVE BAPTIST SEMINARY, COLLEGE, AND SCHOOL DAY  
FEBRUARY 15, 1976

SPONSORED BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

On Feb. 15, 1976, Southern Baptists across the 50-state area of the 12.3-million member denomination will have the opportunity to learn how 71 seminaries, colleges, universities, and schools operated by Baptists "help students to get a head start on tomorrow."

They will learn that these schools, affiliated with the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools, emphasize that education — without recognition of life's spiritual dimension — is no education at all.

On that day, a wide number of SBC churches will observe "Baptist Seminary, College, and School Day" — a Denominational Calendar event sponsored annually by the SBC's Education Commission.

## State's Top 25 Churches In Area 63 Awards Noted

The report of the top 25 churches in new Church Study Course Awards for Oct. 1, 1974, to Sept. 30, 1975, has been compiled by the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

CHURCH	AWARDS
1. Calvary, Waynesboro	304
2. Oak Forest, Jackson	267
3. First, Brookhaven	250
4. Broadmoor, Jackson	183
5. Calvary, Jackson	177
6. First, Tupelo	137
7. Alta Woods, Jackson	133
8. Byram, Jackson	133
9. First, Grenada	124
10. Union, Picayune	124
11. Harrisburg, Tupelo	121
12. First, Vicksburg	112
13. First, Louisville	106
14. Main Street, Hattiesburg	104
15. First, Columbus	103
16. First, Pontotoc	96
17. New Hope, Foxworth	92
18. Parkway, Natchez	90
19. Kossooth, Kossooth	88
20. Calvary, Yazoo City	88
21. Northside, New Albany	80
22. Indian Springs, Laurel	76
23. Van Winkle, Jackson	72
24. First, Okolona	72
25. West Jackson, Tupelo	71

The nature of these awards is Subject Area 63, which is the Biblical Teaching Program.

The top 25 churches, their associations, and the number of awards received are as follows:

ASSOCIATION	AWARDS
Wayne	304
Hinds-Madison	267
Lincoln	250
Hinds-Madison	183
Hinds-Madison	177
Lee	137
Hinds-Madison	133
Hinds-Madison	133
Grenada	124
Pearl River	124
Lee	121
Warren	112
Winston	106
Lebanon	104
Loudess	103
Pontotoc	96
Marion	92
Adams	90
Alcorn	88
Yazoo	88
Union County	80
Jones	76
Hinds-Madison	72
Chickasaw	72
Lee	71

## Baptists Look At History

(Continued from page 1) American Revolution and the basic truths embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, especially the Bill of Rights," he continued.

During the convocation, the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration honored the Baptist Joint Committee for its contribution toward a meaningful observance of the nation's 200th birthday.

A special worship service, at-

## Leaders Of Mission/Choir Tours To Meet Feb. 13

A meeting has been designed for persons who will lead, or assist in leading, mission/youth choir tours this summer. This meeting will take place February 13 from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

Joel T. Land, assistant director, Department of Special Missions Ministries, Home Mission Board, will be the guest leader.

Lunch will be served in the Sky Room, at \$3 per person, paid on arrival.

Areas of discussion will include tour preparation, do's and don'ts while on tour, the use of music and puppets while on tour, and resort ministry. A filmstrip, "Ready to Go—Mission Youth Groups," and a new patriotic musical, "Fabric of Freedom," are to be on the program.

Dan Hall, director, Church Music Department, MBCB, says "Joel Land will help place your group in a needy pioneer area."

tended by 600 persons at the National Baptist Memorial Church, and the unveiling of a portrait of C. Emanuel Carlson, former executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee, also highlighted the convocation.

The National Baptist Memorial with the joint help of the Southern Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Churches in the USA as a memorial to religious liberty.

Clarence Cranford, pastor emeritus of the Calvary Baptist Church, Washington, told the worship service participants that the "Magnificent obsession" of Baptists should be the cause of religious liberty. This should result in a life of love and service to all groups rather than just a demand for freedom for Baptists, he said.

Highlight of the worship service was a presentation of the musical, "Let Christ's Freedom Ring," composed and conducted by Phillip Landgrave, professor of church music at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. The musical was commissioned jointly by the Historical and Christian Life Commissions of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist Joint Committee as part of the 1976 SBC denominational emphasis, "We Hold These Truths."

The Baptist Joint Committee unveiled a portrait of Carlson, who retired in 1971 after 17 years as executive director. The picture will hang in the offices of the committee, along with that of the late M. Dawson, the first executive director. Dr. and Mrs. Carlson are living in Dundee, Fla.

Music for the service was provided by Dan Hall, director of the Church Music Department of the Convention Board, and Nan Grantham, also of the Music Department.

CIUDAD SATELITE, Mexico — The First Baptist Church here responded to requests from Honduran Baptists to support missionaries in that country. After the Honduran Baptists asked the National Baptist Convention of Mexico to send them missionaries, the church sponsored a special missions emphasis program. About \$400 was collected to help fund the new missionaries to Honduras.

Mississippi College students will be holding Spiritual Enrichment Week Feb. 9 - 13 with a team of leading pastors, denominational leaders and counselors serving as discussion leaders for the special emphasis.

The theme for the week will be "Free . . . and Easy!" according to co-chairmen Alice Germany of Clinton and Don Dent of Holly Springs. It will stress responsible freedom.

Visiting lecturers for the week

will be Dr. Fisher H. Humphreys, associate professor of theology at New Orleans Seminary; Rev. William A. Lawson, pastor of Wheeler Avenue Church in Houston, Texas, and a part-time teacher at the University of Houston; Nancy Potts, counselor and therapist at the Union Baptist Association's Center for Counseling in Houston, Texas; and Rev. Daniel John Yearly, pastor of the University Church in Coral Gables, Fla.



Woman's Missionary Union and Book Store Division present the Round Table Book Club at WMU Executive Board meeting, Birmingham. Helping in the presentation are Marjean Patterson, executive secretary, Mississippi; Al Crawford, Southern Region Book Store Division manager; and William S. Graham, Book Store Division manager.

## WMU Announces Book Club, Price Rise, Staffer

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — A missions book club, magazine price increases, summertime conference expansion, and a new staff member were announced here during the meeting of the executive board of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

WMU launched Round Table Book Club, a new plan to get missions books economically into the hands of a wide spectrum of Southern Baptists; announced the first WMU magazine price increases in two years for seven magazines; announced it will hold its first summer time conference tailor-made for pastors and church staff members; and named Cindy Burns, a Mississippian, as a news writer in the WMU's office of public relations.

The Round Table Book Club will offer three books a quarter, which members may accept or decline. It is part of a three-year emphasis on teaching missions, according to Adrienne Bonham, editor Baptist Women — Baptist Young Women materials at WMU.

Charter membership, available through August 15, will include a free copy of "The Woman I Am: Looking Forward Through The Christian Past." Lists for book selection will be mailed in July and the books will be received in September. Miss Bonham said this schedule will allow Round Table groups in Baptist Women's organizations to study the books in October, but she stressed membership is open to all Baptists who want to know more about missions.

The magazine price increases, largely brought about by postal rate increases, will become effective with the July issues, according to Carolyn Weatherford, WMU executive secretary. Possible increases ranged from eight percent to 11 percent for the WMU magazines.

Magazines increasing from \$3 to \$4 annually are "Royal Service," "Contempo" and "Accent." "Discovery" will increase from \$2 to \$3 and "Dimension," "Aware" and "Start" will increase from \$2.50 to \$3.50.

For the first time WMU will offer special conferences for pastors and church staffers at its summertime programs at Ridgeland (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Centers. Sessions will also be available for pastors' wives.

Catherine Allen, assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations, announced that Cindy Burns joined the WMU staff as a news writer, Jan. 2. A native Mississippian, Miss Burns is a recent graduate of Mississippi State University.

## January Budget --

(Continued from page 1) month, though they were \$34,364 below the receipts for the same month of 1975.

"This year is off to a great start in meeting the largest budget in the history of the Mississippi Baptist Convention," said Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. "This interest in world missions continued throughout the year will mean more to the cause of Christ than anyone can imagine."

The 1976 budget for the Mississippi Baptist Convention is \$7.3 million.

Bowen said for that reason he was supporting a Constitutional amendment which would allow prayer in our schools.

Court decisions which seek not just to protect us against a state-established religion, but tend to remove religion from the historic position it has held in our society.

"We cannot help but be distressed at the tendency of recent years to eliminate all reference to God from our public life and all invocation of his blessings from our public schools," Bowen commented.

Bowen said for that reason he was supporting a Constitutional amendment which would allow prayer in our schools.

various classrooms, and holding other special seminar and discussion sessions throughout the week.

The Enrichment Week team will be leading out in regular chapel programs of the college, visiting in



Potts Yearly Lawson Humphreys

## MC Spiritual Enrichment Week To Stress Responsible Freedom

Mississippi College students will be holding Spiritual Enrichment Week Feb. 9 - 13 with a team of leading pastors, denominational leaders and counselors serving as discussion leaders for the special emphasis.

The theme for the week will be "Free . . . and Easy!" according to co-chairmen Alice Germany of Clinton and Don Dent of Holly Springs. It will stress responsible freedom.

Visiting lecturers for the week

# Radio-TV -- Age Of The Sixty-Second Sermon

"It was the only time I ever discussed religion in a bar," one man said later. "The whole bar got quiet and everybody watched. It was about not blaming God for war and violence. It said the only thing God is guilty of is love. And at the end, the fellow (Gannon) speaking offered help from the church. I really liked that commercial."

Few people realize that spot announcements are the "least expensive way" to reach large numbers of people with the gospel, according to Wayne Allen, pastor of Memphis' East Park Baptist Church.

"We paid \$300 a minute for time for three one-minute spot announcements telling Memphians the church cares about alcoholics, troubled teenagers, and those in jail. We figure," said Allen, "probably 80,000 people saw us in Memphis, plus those in the three-state viewing area. You couldn't mail all those people a post card for that amount."

One problem, East Park Church faced was the local station's policy of not selling time to religious organizations. But the station manager viewed their commercials and made an exception "accepting them on their merit," said Allen.

For other churches, radio produces effective results. James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., was one of the first Southern Baptist ministers to use radio for one-minute gospel messages. He believes the "short devotional message that instantly relates to people is the way we are going to penetrate the secular mind."

"You don't necessarily get a response or finished results immediately," he said, "but some of the messages are very evangelistic. We feel strongly that we're creating an appetite for things religious."

Pleitz' spots are on seven radio stations — including one in Memphis, Tenn., and another in Winston-Salem, N.C. He considers spot advertising so effective that if forced to choose between them and airing the Sunday worship service, "I would

choose the spots."

In Virginia, Charles G. Fuller, pastor of Roanoke's First Baptist Church, uses radio to deliver one-minute, "God's Minutes," just before the noon news each day, and "Drive Time" spots during peak commuter hours. The spots "reach more people in 18 cities in Virginia than ever visit the church," Fuller said.

James W. Waters, pastor of Macon, Georgia, White Memorial Baptist Church in Macon, agrees that radio is an effective extended pulpit. Waters, on the air since 1953, said, "If there are 35 people in church on Sunday, 65 will be absent. The broadcast medium is the mission arm of the church to reach those people..."

So convinced were John A. Wood, pastor of First Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky., and the congregation there of broadcasting's effectiveness that they remodeled the sanctuary to accommodate television equipment to beam a quality program from the church to the local station. Included was a closed circuit television system, "which offers tremendous possibilities for church educational activities," said Wood.

The church also produces several religious specials each year. Its hour-long Christmas Eve special is aired locally, with the station pre-empting the network to present the program.

While airing Sunday worship services and presenting Christian in capsules are effective, several Baptist state conventions and agencies are using documentaries to tell their individual stories.

The Missouri Baptist General Convention was among the first. In "Me and Tom and the River," Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer and an "old-timey" Baptist preacher rode a raft down the Mississippi River from the past to the present. Scenes highlighted Missouri's history and present.

Bob Thornton, who produced "Me and Tom . . .", also produced, "The Whale that Came to Mississippi" for the Mississippi Baptist Convention. "Whale" studies the heritage of Mississippi Baptists, assesses its present, and

challenges for the future.

"Rising postal rates and our concern about newspapers and their need to meet high mailing costs turned us toward television," said Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi convention. "We bought prime time to air the show — on a medium reaching a target audience the normal church does not reach . . ."

TimeRite has also produced a

"Life and Liberty '76" series of 27, five-minute Bicentennial programs for the Arkansas State Baptist Convention, produced by Roger McDonald of TimeRite. Budget for the project was \$50,000, Woody said. "We bought time on the Arkansas Razorback football radio network to promote the series. The radio people like the promotion spots and are running them free as public service announcements during the week."

The Arkansas Bicentennial television spots will cover the state from stations in four cities, including Monroe, La., which reaches southeastern Arkansas.

Baptist agencies using the documentary include the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, for which Thornton and TimeRite produced the award-winning "The Mountain Within," featuring film and television star Andy Griffith.

Thornton is also producing a documentary on aging for the Virginia Baptist Homes, featuring Will Geer of "The Waltons" television show. The film is geared as educational and fund-raiser.

The Radio and Television Commission programs reach an estimated 100 million people weekly. In 1975 alone the broadcast industry gave more than \$10 million worth of free time to air commission programs.

# Commission Opposes Wine, Betting

(Continued from page 1)

bill would permit direct sales to distributors, retailers, and consumers without sales being subject to ABC control. The tax would be only 5 cents per gallon compared to 35 cents per gallon on wine imported from other states. Untaxed six ounce free samples may be distributed at the winery. The license fee for manufacturers is \$10 per 10,000 gallons, with a \$50 fee for a retail permit.

The Christian Action Commission, in a meeting Friday at the Baptist Building, issued a statement concerning these bills through the executive director, Dr. J. Clark Hensley, as follows:

"Mississippians will do an injustice to the people of the counties involved in the location of race tracks, as well as the state as a whole, if we permit this malignancy of pari-mutuel wagering to infect our body politic. The criminal element and a few others stand to make big money while other businesses suffer the economic drain to the gambling interests. Should the tax revenue from gambling run as high as a few million dollars, it will not begin to pay for the cost of law enforcement surrounding the illegal activities that accompany such devious enterprises. Horse racing as a sport is already legal in Mississippi. It is race track gambling that is being opposed. Further, the provision that 2½ per cent of the amount wagered would be earmarked for a fund for teachers' salaries is no guarantee that their salaries would be raised according to the amount received. Re-

member the promises concerning

legalized liquor. This bill should be defeated!"

Concerning the "native wine bill," Dr. Hensley stated, "Increased outlets always means increased consumption. With alco-

hol being the number one drug abuse problem and the dramatic rise in teenage drinking and alcoholism, it is terrifying to think of the dangerous consequences of such a law. The 6-ounce sample give-a-way is like a drug push-



Mid-Winter Bible Conference

The annual Smith County Association Mid-Winter Bible Conference was held last week at First Church, Raleigh. The pastor, Dr. Robert H. Perry, second from left, visits with the three speakers. They are, left to right: Dr. Fred Wood, pastor of Eudora Baptist Church, Memphis; Dr. Robert L.

Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo; and Dr. James L. Sullivan, recently retired president of the Sunday School Board, a Mississippi native. Dr. Wood discussed Jeremiah; Dr. Hamblin delivered the messages, and Dr. Sullivan discussed John.



Smith Association Director of Missions Charles L. Bryant, right, with Martha Branham, Dallas soloist, and Rev. Billy Ballard, left, pastor of Union Baptist Church and chairman of the Missions Committee for Smith County Association, during the association's annual Mid-Winter Bible Conference.

## Literacy Workshop To Be Held At First, Moss Point

The Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the WMU of Jackson Association are sponsoring a Literacy Workshop February 16-19, to be held in First Baptist Church, Moss Point, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day.

According to Rodney Webb, consultant with the Cooperative Missions Department, the purpose of this workshop is to train those who are interested in teaching people how to read and write.

Mrs. Wanda Eckeberger of Pasadena, Texas, will lead the workshop.

Those interested in attending should pre-register with Mrs. Paul Vandercrook (phone 497-5919) in Gautier, Ms.



Missionary wives had fun telling about their roles overseas: From left to right are Mrs. Dolton Haggan, Philadelphia, Mississippi; Mrs. John Smith, Indonesia; Mrs. C. W. Applewhite, Indonesia; and Mrs. Hall Lee, France.

## Young Ministers' Wives Find "Something Old, Something New" At Camp Garaywa Retreat

By Barbara Taylor

At the Young Ministers' Wives Retreat at Camp Garaywa recently, there were things old and things new — ideas old and proven and ideas fresh and new, friendships old and re-established and some acquaintances made new.

The retreat, sponsored by Mississippi Woman's Missionary Un-

ion each year, is a time of relaxation, of renewal, and of growth for those who attend.

Mrs. J. Winston Pearce of North Carolina shared treasures of wisdom from experiences she's had as a pastor's wife in cities, in small churches, on college campuses. As Mrs. Pearce discussed the role of pastor's wife with the "under 40s" who came, it was evident in her radiance, her smile, her poise, that she loves her role! And she confirmed

tors' wives in the United States? Yes — and no. The problems are there—and the happiness is there. It's the culture, the customs, the language that may be different. Missionary wives at the retreat were Mrs. Dolton Haggan, Philadelphia, Mississippi; Mrs. John Smith, Indonesia; Mrs. C. W. Applewhite, Indonesia; and Mrs. Hal Lee, France. These ladies shared situations similar to those we have — the cooking (though they have very few "convenience" entrees as they teach their children the important of music).

What's new in fashion for spring? Nell Blakely of Sears, Roebuck Company in Jackson shared with the group the colors that would be popular — and in our Bicentennial year of course red, white, and blue will be unusually good fashion colors. Several models, all employees of Sears, were present to show an array of new styles in new materials and colors. After seeing the

# The Baptist Record

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## EDITORIAL

### Concern And Action

We live in a day when many things are happening which demand concern and action on the part of Christian people. Speaking in Jackson the week-end of January 25, Congressman John Conlan of Arizona, said that Christians should get involved and that they can get things done. In this issue of the Baptist Record are four stories which call for concern and action. Three of them are in news articles and one is in a letter to the editor. Are we concerned? Do we care? These issues offer us opportunity to act.

1. One of these problems is world hunger. This has been before us for months and even years, but the situation continually grows worse. On page one there is a story and a drawing which calls to Southern Baptists' attention ways in which they can help in feeding hungry people around the world. Most of us never miss a meal, and probably in our homes we waste enough food to keep hungry people alive. Do we care? Are we willing to do something? Southern Baptists are taking action which invites and urges us to do more than we have done or are doing.

2. The second problem which also is pointed up in this issue is the matter of persecution of Christians in some areas of the world. Here in America where we have complete religious freedom it is difficult for us to realize how some of our fellow Christians are suffering. Yet, in many places, and especially in the Soviet Union, Christians are being persecuted for their faith. This story calls attention to the

example of one man, Georgi Vins, a fellow Baptist, who is in a Russian prison for his faith. In recent editorials, Dr. John Hurt, editor of the Baptist Standard in Texas, has shamed Southern Baptists for remaining silent in this matter, when fellow Christians are suffering so terribly. He urges that Baptists everywhere write the Soviet Union embassy, protesting the Vins imprisonment and asking for religious freedom for all Russian people. He suggests, "Write the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, 1125 16th St., Washington, D. C., 20036." He also suggests writing to Congressmen both in the House and Senate. Here is action we can take! Do we have enough concern to do it? Is it all right with us that Russia is persecuting our fellow Baptists?

3. A third problem is pointed up in the Forum. This letter calls attention to the fact that Meredith Corporation in Des Moines, Iowa, publishers of Better Homes and Gardens, is now printing two of the worst of the pornographic publications, and that some workers have been fired because they had convictions which would not allow them to work on such smut. One of those fired was a fellow Baptist, who has been an engraver for the company for twenty four years. He was told that he could come back at any time "but leave your convictions behind." A campaign has been launched by some concerned people, to ask Christians everywhere to protest to the Meredith Corporation by cancelling subscriptions to Better Homes and Gardens. Here is something we can do. Are we enough concerned to do it, or are

we satisfied to allow purveyors of smut to become more and more brazen? We expect that if enough people begin to cancel subscriptions, the Meredith company will take a second look at their contract.

4. A fourth concern in this issue, is found in the article by Dr. Clark Hensley calling attention to the race track bill and the native wine bill now in the hopper at the legislature. Although they have been defeated over and over, the supporters of these measures never give up.

The race track bill sounds innocent since it simply allows the Gulf Coast area to vote on whether it wants to allow horse racing. The problem is that the Gulf Coast is a part of Mississippi, and horse racing on the Gulf Coast is horse racing in Mississippi. We are convinced that the majority of Mississippians do not want it. The wine bill opens the door for the manufacture of wine in the state, and most Mississippians do not want that either. It is probable that the majority of the legislators also know that Mississippians do not want either of these, but they are going to be pressured to pass them. It is because of this that Christian citizens must be alert and ready to make their will known. They should let the legislators know that they strongly oppose these bills and want them to be defeated. If enough Christian citizens speak up they will not pass. Here is an opportunity for Christian action. If we fail to speak up we may find some things approved for our state which we do not at all want. It is not a time for silence.

#### NEWEST BOOKS

A RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, Volumes I and II by Sydney E. Ahlstrom (Image Books-Doubleday, pocket book, paper, 700 pp per volume, \$3.50 per volume).

Paperback edition of a set which originally sold for \$25.00. A history of religion and religious influence from the foundations of America to the turbulent sixties. Carefully documented and well interpreted material on all areas of religion in America throughout its history.

ONE NATION UNDER GOD by Ross Walton (Revell, paper, 311 pp., \$3.95).

An examination of the principles which made this "one nation under God," and of the forces which threaten to destroy it today. For example the author reveals what socialism threatens to do to our nation and how Christians can take action to halt its march.

IT IS THEIR RIGHT by James M. Bulman (Gateway Publications, 158 pp., \$2.95, hard cover \$3.95).

The author is a Baptist pastor in North Carolina. In this study he seeks to show what really was declared on July 4, 1776 and its significance in 1976. He examines the people, natural and God-given rights, life, liberty and happiness, the just powers of government, free and independent states, religious concepts in our fundamental documents, and future security. The book reveals that the precious heritage which we have in America is based upon God's Word and discusses what must be done to preserve our freedoms.

THE RIGHT TO REMARRY by Dwight Hervey Small (Revell, 190 pp., \$5.95).

Does the divorced person have a right to remarry? Can a committed Christian ever remarry after a divorce? Is divorce indeed the one remaining unparallel sin in the church? The author makes the case that there is the right to remarry under the triumph of God's grace. This is a valuable new study of the whole Bible revelation concerning one of the most serious problems of our day.

VIC COBURN: MAN WITH THE HEALING TOUCH by C. A. Roberts (Thomas Nelson, Inc., 204 pp., \$5.95)...

The story of a young evangelist on the West Coast who preaches and has healing services. The author seeks to interpret this type of ministry which is practiced by a number of people in our nation today.

THE MEDIA CENTER SERVING A CHURCH by Wayne E. Todd (Convention Press, 125 pp., paper, \$1.25).

The secretary of the Church Library Department of the Sunday School Board, a former Mississippian, explains how the old concept of a church library has been so expanded that now churches can have a "media center" which serve the whole church. The book opens a whole new concept concerning one phase of a church's ministry.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX HANDBOOK FOR CLERGY — For 1975 Returns by Kenneth G. Hungerford II and William C. Slack (Baker, about 75 large pages, paper, \$2.95) A carefully prepared guide-

book for ordained ministers to use in preparing their 1975 Federal Income Tax forms. Covers every bit of the report, including all income, allowances, etc. Samples of all forms are included, showing how they are to be correctly filled out. We have not found a single question concerning income tax that is not fully and clearly discussed here.

LOVETT'S LIGHTS ON ROMANS with rephrased text by C. S. Lovett (Personal Christianity, Box 157, Baldwin Park, CA 91766, paper, 112 pp., \$4.95).

This is one of a series of commentaries on the New Testament written by a California preacher and theologian, Dr. C. S. Lovett. The author seeks to present the deepest riches that scholarship will be able to bring forth, but he has presented the message in such simplified, readable form that the great truths of the book are opened immediately to even the untrained reader. The book is unusual compared with ordinary commentaries, but will prove invaluable to students of the Word.

GODS IN CHARIOTS AND OTHER FANTASIES by Clifford Wilson (Creation-Life Publishers, P. O. Box 18666, San Diego, CA 92115, pocket book, paper 144 pp., \$1.50).

A Bible believing scientist provides a "sensible answer to Von Daniken's Chariot of the Gods." The author shows that one does not have to go to fantastic ideas of things of the past to believe and understand the meaning of history in the light of God's revelation.

'ATSA LOUIE — I'MA PHIL by the Palermes with Bernard Palmer (Victor Books, paper, 135 pp., \$2.95) Louie and Phil Palmer "wandering troubadours for Christ," come alive in these pages. "Two Italian boys" originally from Chicago entertainingly write about their Uncle Ben and how he introduced them and all their family to new life in Jesus Christ. They tell of their mother's miraculous healing from terminal cancer, and of their own beginnings in music. They have played and sung in many places around the world, including appearances with Billy Graham and singing to troops in war-torn areas of the world. Currently they are sharing their message through Spaghetti Spectaculars. This humourous, heartwarming and unforgettable book is profusely illustrated with black and white photographs of the Palermo family.

THE PRACTICE OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD by Brother Lawrence edited and paraphrased by Donald E. Demarey (Baker, pocket book, paper, 64 pp., \$1.25).

An old classic is written for our modern day. Brother Lawrence was a monk in the 17th century whose life and letters have inspired many generations in practicing the presence of God.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD by Arthur Simon (Paulist Press and Wm. B. Erdmans, paper, \$1.50, 177 pp.) The author gives a clear and convincing analysis in popular language, of the world hunger crisis, and points out some things that American Christians can do to meet that issue. (Mr. Simon is Executive Director of Bread for the World.)

THE ART AND CRAFT OF PREACHING by Herbert Lockyer (Baker, paper, \$2.95, 118 pp.) This author believes that effective preaching is not only an art that good preachers develop, but that it is also an art that requires constant cultivation. Chapters of this new book point the way to success in sermon delivery, sermon construction, pulpit style, praying in public, Scripture reading, and the avoidance of perils that commonly confront ministers.

PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS by George Swesey (Prentiss - Hall 239 pp., \$10.95).

A professor of homiletics at Princeton Theological Seminary, writes a textbook on preaching. He deals with the basics, the technique, the material, the subjects and their participants.

Beyond THE GOAL by Kyle Rote, Jr. with Ronald Patterson (Word, 159 pp., \$3.95).

The story of Kyle Rote, outstanding soccer player, whose three loves of life are his God, his family, and his friends. One of the many books now appearing on Christian athletes.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD by William Taylor (Baker, 218 pp., \$3.95).

Paperback reprint of a preaching classic, the Lyman Beecher lectures of 1876 at Yale Seminary.

HAPPINESS IS A FAMILY TIME TOGETHER by Lois Bock and Mihl Working (Fleming H. Revell, paper, 169 pp., \$4.95) Two Christian mothers set out to improve the quality of their family life. They succeeded in finding a special time at least once a week for family togetherness. They share their discoveries in this book, giving 25 challenging sessions of Family Sharing (dialogue and scripture readings), Family Fun (enjoyable exercises and activities) and Together Before God (informal prayers.)

A SPECIAL KIND OF MAN by Harley Dickson (Word Books, \$4.95, 133 pp.) Harley Dickson introduces the reader to a thoroughly human Jesus, in the hope that the reader, like the author, will embark on a journey to faith, and a deeper personal relationship with him as divine Lord.

SELF-LOVE by Robert H. Schuller (Spire Books, \$1.50, paper, 160 pp.) Mr. Schuller, pastor of the first drive-in, walk-in church and author of the million-plus bestseller, *Move Ahead with Possibility Thinking*, outlines a new, startlingly simple formula for success. He maintains that learning to love yourself is the secret of happiness in life, in love, in everything you do.

WORKING WORLD by Martha Nelson (Broadman, paper, \$1.50, 141 pp.) This is a new paperback edition of the hardcover book released in 1970. The author, wife of Rev. Carl Nelson, pastor of Pelahatchie, Mississippi, gives helpful advice and encouragement as she deals with the special problems — and opportunities — of working women. Here is valuable information on attitude, appearance, conduct, opportunities to witness and counsel. Here too are ideas on maintaining that crucial balance between the job and home.

"YES, WE LIVE UNDER CONSTANT DANGER TO OUR LIVES BECAUSE WE SERVE THE LORD, BUT THIS GIVES US CONSTANT OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW FORTH THE POWER OF JESUS CHRIST WITHIN OUR DYING BODIES. BECAUSE OF OUR PREACHING WE FACE DEATH..."  
2 COR. 4:11,12  
(L.B.)



PLIGHT OF OUR MISSIONARIES

#### THE BAPTIST FORUM

### Asks Protest Of Pornographic Publication

Dear Dr. Odle:

Most of your readers are probably unaware that the publisher of the preeminently respectable Better Homes and Gardens magazine is now in the pornography business. Meredith Corporation, its publisher, has entered into a five-year contract to print *Viva and Penthouse*, two of the vilest publications extant. They are replete with pictures of nude men and women in a variety of poses and sexual activities. The context is as foul as the pictures.

Many of your readers may subscribe to Better Homes and Gardens, an excellent magazine for homemakers with a circulation of eight million and, until now, an unblemished reputation.

Meredith fired at least five employees whose religious convictions would not permit them to participate in the production of this garbage. One engraver, a Baptist 50 years old who had been with the company 24 years, was told to "Come back any time you want to; but leave your convictions at home." Bill Macken and his convictions are still at home.

Subscribers to Better Homes and Gardens who disapprove of pornography and this outrageous economic reprisal against workers because of their religious convictions and consequent aversion to filth, may express their sentiments most effectively by sending their subscription cancellations to Robert A. Burnett, President, Meredith Corporation, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50306. Gerald P. McAtee

10 S. Brentwood  
Clayton, Mo. 63105

#### On The MORAL SCENE...

THE COSTS OF KEEPING CONGRESS — Since 1970 consumer prices have risen 30 percent. In Congress, meanwhile, the legislators have raised allowances for staff salaries by 71 percent, 116 percent for stationery supplies, 68 percent for special postage, and 275 percent for rental of district office space. The appropriations for simple operations of the congressional branches (exclusive of joint committees, the Capitol architect, etc.) in fiscal year 1976 was \$102,794,000; while the figure for fiscal year 1976 is \$325,244,000. Why has the rate of inflation for the operation of legislative offices risen so dramatically? One major reason frequently cited is that Congress in recent years has been fighting to keep up with the federal bureaucracy. Another reason is that Americans seem more willing than ever before to seek help from their representation. (By William Taaffe, Washington Star Staff Writer, November 13, 1975)

Natural death is now defined as being killed by an automobile.

Envy provides the mud that failure throws at success.

Usually it is easier to forgive an enemy than a friend.

The roots of education are bitter, but the fruits are sweet.

#### The Baptist Record

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Don McGregor Associate Editor

Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

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OUT GEORGE-ING GEORGE at William Carey College's 1976 Homecoming on January 31 was Dr. Milton Wheeler, chairman of the department of history and social science. Dr. Wheeler, featured speaker for the alumni luncheon, was selected to receive the 1976 "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year" award.



**By Ralph Duncan**  
Most Baptist churches need a full-time pastor located in their community. But he has to live! Christian people are as responsible to meet their pastor's money needs as he is to provide the church's spiritual ministry.

I Corinthians 9:13-14 says, "Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple? and they wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

When a pastor assumes the responsibilities of church leadership he must keep an automobile that will start when necessary. He also needs to dress presentably enough to make a positive impression in public places.

He must provide schooling and medical care for himself and his family. If he does not have maximum hospitalization and other insurance, he is flirting with disaster.

Many pastors I know provide their churches' official transportation. Constantly they go, go, go on church business, visiting, witnessing, recruiting and attending meetings.

A few years ago a highly respected city mission superintendent said to me, "About the only way a church in my city will give a pastor a raise is when they call a new pastor on the field."

Sometimes fringe benefits, such as paid vacations, hospital, life insurance, and retirement benefits will equal one-half of industrial workers' incomes. Thus, fringe benefits would likewise be a significant part of a pastor's income!

I know a pastor who for four years, making severe sacrifices, served a small, but fast growing, Southern Baptist Convention church in a "pioneer area." Strangely, many new members of the church for two years were opposed by older church leaders in a strong attempt to give the pastor a salary increase. (At that time the church had a \$2,000 monthly balance in its general fund.) But that same church raised their new pastor's annual salary \$2,000. The increase helped the new pastor. But it took the former pastor two years to recover from dollar losses he had incurred while serving that

church.

Occasionally some churches go far above others in their efforts to provide for their pastor and his family. However, even these may become slack and what previously was an adequate income may become only existence wages.

Dr. Hal D. Bennett, long-time Baptist minister, said, "Some churches . . . don't really intend to deprive their pastor. They don't plan to force him into debt. They don't deliberately set out to make him so money-conscious that he has to look around for a place to serve, 'where I am more appreciated.' They don't meet his needs because they can hardly believe such day-to-day obligations exist for one of God's special men." But the needs do exist! And unless many churches immediately come to the financial rescue of their pastors, it is this writer's opinion that several hundred Baptist pastors will be forced to leave the full-time pastorate within the next twelve months.

Facing the financial facts of life seldom is easy for an individual or a church. And for a church to admit failure to provide an adequate salary for its pastor is a painful lesson in humility for its leaders. But it's better for church leaders to be humbled than for God's man to suffer and annually take cuts in his salary.

That's what I said. . . cuts in salary! A church that has not given its pastor a raise of at least twenty per cent during the past 2-3 years has cut the man's wages due to the continuing rise of inflation.

Church leaders, if you are concerned about your pastor's welfare, appoint a committee that will honestly evaluate his needs.

Determine his annual income and compare it to the income of respected leaders in the church. Try to get an accurate estimate of the number of miles your pastor drives his car per year on church business. Then, accept the hard fact that it costs the pastor at least 12c per mile for the mileage he expends on church business. (I know numerous pastors who drive 20,000 miles per year on church business, but it is a rare and fortunate minister who receives \$2,400 per year car allowance above his basic salary.)

When the study is completed, several options are open to the church. The most obvious one: give the pastor a raise! Other alternatives include two churches being served by one pastor. Or a non-resident student pastor may be the best possible compromise.

A long held axiom in Baptist life should still hold true.

Name, that when Baptist people recognize a need they become concerned about it and do something about it. Some churches recently have done positive soul searching in respect to their pastor's salary. Has yours?

(Mr. Duncan is director of development and denominational relations for Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky.)

## 'Living Testimony'

## The State Baptist Papers

**By Robert V. Roberts**

WAKE FOREST, N. C. — The colors vary, the size is not always the same, and the names are individualized, but the Baptist state papers are very much alike.

It matters not where you live, if you are a Southern Baptist you have something in common with fellow Southern Baptists in other states besides the Cooperative Program and doctrine. You have your state paper.

Some of the papers are printed in newspaper style while others are published in magazine form. Some are loose leaf and others are stapled. They usually range in length from 8 to 24 pages.

In some, the paperstock is slick. In others it is dull and coarse. But one thing is common—all of the papers are distinctively Baptist. From the front to the back, the papers are oriented toward Southern Baptists.

Basically the SBC news is the same in all the papers. All contain announcements of local, state and SBC matters. All have editorials and public forums (letters to the editor).

The papers carry varied advertising, this also oriented toward church people.

The papers contain the next Sunday School lesson, usually including both the Life and Work and the International Series.

There are lead articles, doctrinal messages, devotional columns, and sometimes cartoons and joke columns.

The papers are full of the names of people and pictures of people

and places, with current news from around the state and the nation.

It is amazing how each state is independent and yet produces a publication similar to all the other Baptist papers. If a Southern Baptist moved from Oregon to Georgia or from Virginia to California, he would feel right at home with his new state paper.

The Baptist state papers illus-

(Continued On Page 8)



## A Long-Time Reader

Miss Carrie Luke, 99, has been reading the Illinois Baptist state paper since 1905. Shown with the paper's editor Robert J. Hastings, Miss. Luke taught Sunday School until she was 85 and taught teenagers in Vacation Bible School when she was 89. The weekly newspaper recently observed its 70th anniversary and recognized Miss Luke's long-time faithfulness to the publication. (BP) Photo by John Whitman.



## SCRAPBOOK

### Winter's Gifts

In winter's gift of frost  
The house tops look like snow  
And glisten in the early sun.  
As birds sit to and fro.  
The bare crepe myrtle trees  
With lacy branches sway,  
Exquisite silhouettes  
No artist could portray.  
Ev'ry dew drop is a diamond,  
And we're heirs of the King of Kings  
If we belong to him  
Who made all things.

—Victoria Singley

### And Another And Another

I know that one can't do everything,  
But one can do something.  
Even if it's just a little something.  
Turn the eye of your soul inward,  
But only for a moment.  
Just long enough to take hold of the star of your soul.  
And hold it high.  
Then turn the eye of your soul outward,  
And look beyond yourself.  
At the others.  
And that could be the whole of it.  
One grain of sand,  
And another and another and another  
Make a beach.  
One blade of grass,

### A Warm Spell

There comes a lull in the winter,  
And sunny Mississippi bares her arms.  
That's the moment for a stroll along the lake.  
Golden flat grass and brush, like trees, are not awake.  
The edge wood yields her paths, which are many and diverse.  
Lake water lounges, resting. Waves barely immerse,  
And I, walking, abandon troubled trouble.  
Winter is not winter all the time.

—Violet Tackett

And another and another and another  
Make a lawn.  
One sturdy tree,  
And another and another and another  
Make a forest.  
And you can join those others  
Whose lives you touch every day,  
And you can show them  
That "Can I Help?" and "I Understand"  
Are not obsolete.  
And that a smile, a word, a touch,  
Can bind you to me and me to you,  
And all of us to each other.  
And as small as they are  
They may one day  
Even if  
The world together. — Brook Sledge



## Homecoming Queen

Susan Rayburn was named HOMECOMING QUEEN for 1976 at William Carey College. A senior music major, she reigned over festivities Saturday, January 31, and was crowned by President J. Ralph Noonkester during half-time ceremonies of the homecoming basketball game between the Carey Crusaders and Montevallo College. Susan is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Tom F. Rayburn of Booneville, Mississippi.



## Memories Of A Home In Mississippi

By Beatrice Carter  
As the golden sun was slowly sinking in the western horizon, I stood by a gate reminiscing. Near that gate is an old house,

Then I visualized the gypsy blood of autumn when night draws her velvet curtain a bit earlier and the air has become crisper.

To my memory comes rushing images of loved ones and of friends so dear — of my youth — that are treasured beyond comprehension.

In this old house there is no



### Winter Pool

The limpid pool lies sleeping  
With beauty by its side.  
The willows bend there weeping  
The waves give little sighs.

Thursday, February 5, 1976

## Names In The News

Tommy Martin was licensed to preach by First Church, Mt. Olive, on January 11.

**He is the son of Mrs. Sarah and the late Mr. L. V. Martin of Mt. Olive. A graduate of Mt. Olive High School, he is a sophomore at Jones Junior College. He plans to enter Mississippi College next semester.**

Rev. Foy Killingsworth is his pastor.

Rev. Frank Stringer was ordained to the ministry recently by New Home Church, Smith County. Mr. Stringer recently

retired from the Armed services and was called as past or Spring Cottage Church at Columbia.

Rev. Eddie Bryant, pastor of New Home, preached the ordination sermon. Rev. Ben Carlisle gave the charge. Claborn Stringer presented a Bible as a gift from members of New Home Church.

Dr. David R. Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, is author of an article in the February issue of Church Administration, entitled "How to Build a Church Staff."

Rev. Carlton McNeer has accepted the call to become pastor of Mt. Vernon Church, Holmes County. Recently licensed by the Pickens Church, he lives in Pickens with his wife, Anna. He is a student at Holmes Junior College. His ordination service is scheduled at Mt. Vernon on February 8 at the evening service.

Dr. Lewis Nobles, president Mississippi College will have a leading role in a three-day workshop on "Building A Successful Development Team - Trustees, President, Development Staff, Volunteers," in the Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois, February 11-13.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald C. Davis, newly appointed missionaries to the Philippines, have arrived on the field (address: 2444 Taft Ave., Manila, Philippines).

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Cooper, missionaries to Korea, are the parents of a daughter, Jenifer Dawn, born Dec. 22, 1975. They may be addressed at 204 Third Ave., Andalusia, Ala. 36420.



Rev. Edwin Sudduth has accepted the position of associate pastor of Fairview Church, Sunflower County, and began January 18. Fairview honored Mr. and Mrs. Sudduth, above, with a fellowship and an "old fashioned pounding." The couple will continue to reside in Indiana where Mrs. Sudduth, the former Ruth Braswell of Vicksburg, is employed by Dr. Tom Martin. For the past year Mr. Sudduth has served Eastwood, Indiana, as part-time minister of music while teaching piano. He was recently ordained by his home church, First Church, Durant. Rev. Tom Gilder is pastor of Fairview.



APPRECIATION PLAQUES — Students in the Mississippi College School of Law presented plaques of appreciation to Mrs. Mary Libby Payne, interim dean and associate professor of law, and to Mrs. Kathy Barefoot, admissions officer, for their work during the first semester of operation. From the left are Paul Dhalwan and Nancy Ruhl, law students who made the presentations; Mrs. Payne; Mrs. Barefoot; and Dr. Lewis Nobles, president of the college. (M.C. Photo to Ronnie Killebrew)

Larry Hardy, from Water Valley, has recently taken the position of music director of Friendship Church at Geolin Corner. Mr. Hardy, who is working at Radio Station WVLV in Water Valley, graduated from Northwest Jr. College and formerly was youth and music director for Second Baptist Church in Water Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Errol Simmons, missionaries to Spain, are the parents of a son, William Timothy, born Dec. 20, 1975. They may be addressed at Antonio Covero 17, Madrid 33, Spain.

Debra Holfield, father of Robert A. Holfield, missionary to Italy, died Jan. 10 in Laurel, Miss. Missionary Holfield (native of Jones County, Miss.) may be addressed at Via Cassia 901-B10, 00189 Rome, Italy.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles L. Devers, newly appointed missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have arrived in France for a year's language study (address: 250 Avenue Grammont, 37,000 Tours, France).

Rev. James Beck, pastor of West Union Church, Carrere, has been included in the 1976 listings of "Outstanding Young Men of America." A William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary graduate, he is a native of Louisiana. Married and the father of two daughters, he was named "Best Citizen" at Carey in 1974.

Joelle Davis, seven month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dorman Davis, Jr. of Lumberton, has been in Sunday School every Sunday for six months, at First Church, Lumberton. Joelle is the youngest member ever to receive an attendance award at First, Lumberton.

She was born May 17, 1975 and started attending Sunday School June 15 when she was four weeks old and has not missed a Sunday since.

Joelle was welcomed into the Davis family by two sisters, Pam, 13, and Alison, 11, who also attend Sunday School every Sunday.

Dallas King, retired mail carrier in Potts Camp, retired in December, 1975, as an active deacon at Potts Camp Church. The church has elected him as deacon emeritus, a fitting tribute to 26 years of service, the pastor, Dr. James Travis, said. Mr. King, a native of Marshall County, brought to the church problems the same wise leadership that led him to the district governorship of the Lions, 1961-62, and membership on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson for six years. While seeking relief from administrative duties because of his health, Mr. King assured the church that he intended to continue serving as a Bible class teacher.

## Prayer Lift For Pastors February 8-14

### Choctaw Association

Feb. 8

Rev. W. T. Holloway, Clear Springs

Rev. B. B. McGee, Concord

Rev. Wayne Howard, Covenant

Rev. John Strickland, Crepe Creek

Rev. Willie Richardson, Fellowship

Feb. 9

Rev. J. B. Smith, Fentress

Rev. J. A. McMillan, French Camp

Rev. Joe Hunt, Hopewell

Rev. Donald Riley, Mt. Moriah

Rev. Carlos Criswell, New Zion

Feb. 10:

Rev. A. P. Gilder, Wood Springs

Rev. Dell Strickland, Cross Roads



A Woman's World Reaches For  
Beyond the  
Ironing Board  
Wilde Fancher

Sunday, January 11 was one of those days I just must tell you about. For nearly a month all six of our family had been in and out at home — judging from holes in the pantry and freezer, to say nothing of the dirty dishes and clothes, I'd say mostly IN — for the holidays. A very pleasant time, there'd been no international incidents and hardly any squirmishes, an unusual record around our place.

I'd been a good Saturday night mother and had everything ready for a good Sunday because the holiday gathering would begin to disperse when Bobby and Nan left after lunch. I remembered many Saturday nights when I'd polished three pairs of shoes, fixed three offering envelopes, etc. Then, two. Then, one. Then, none. Boys grow up, you know.

Sunday morning everybody's schedule was well in mind and hand. We called the youngest, Jim, who goes to early church with me. He said, "Oh, I think I'll go to late church." We'd left all of them in the den after midnight, and knew they'd been up very late. So, that was fine.

I scooted on to church to get ready for choir. When I walked by the sanctuary at 5 til 8 I heard the gorgeous sounds of the Notations as they rehearsed. I flew to the phone, "James, get Jim up. The Notations are singing." Church starts at 8:20.

Furious. At Jim. And at myself. I said, "Lord, I am so furious I cannot possibly go out there and act decent, so I'm not going to sing." I sat down in the choir room. Finally, I went to the Notations director and said, "Is Jim out there yet?"

He said, "No, I was about to call. Is he coming?"

"Yes," I said, "but you needn't say anything to him. I'll take care of him." I guess he figured my wrath would overtake care of Jim.

Suddenly I was exhausted — all my work to make Sunday a very good day, and I had overlooked one of my usual Saturday night rituals: Jim, what all do you have to do at church tomorrow? Everything lined up?

In the choir room, as we sang our warm-up hymns, words jumped out at me: Refresh Thy people on their weary way . . . Lo, I am with you always . . .

Even, Lord, when, if I could get my hands on Jim, right now, I'd shake his teeth out? Course, I'd have to climb up in a chair, he's so tall.

"Yes, I am with you always, even unto the temptation to shake your boy's teeth out."

Practically every word we sang spoke to me. My spirit calmed, and the Notations, with one very sleepy-eyed bass, sang beautifully, and I took care of him, by hugging his neck as I said, "I'm sorry one of the facts of life is that children are somewhat like their parents. Your Dad and I have been known to forget."

To the Lord I added, Thanks for being with me always. As much money as we have in his teeth, I guess shaking them out would be rather foolish, to say nothing of what it would do to his heart if I shook them that hard.

To myself, I added, Mamas probably never get away from having to polish an occasional pair of shoes on a Saturday night.

## Revival Dates

First, Biloxi: February 15-20; Dr. Ed Young, pastor, First Church, Columbia, S. C., evangelist; Jamal Badry, Oklahoma City, in charge of music; 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.

## Sunday School Lesson: International

# Contrasting Responses Of Faith

By Wm. J. Fallis

Matthew 14—15

Both stories of this lesson can be found also in Mark. Since most New Testament scholars are convinced that Mark was written earlier, we can say that it was one of Matthew's sources, in fact, the main one. While some verses are almost identical, Matthew made changes to suit the purpose of his Gospel. He also added other material not in Mark. For instance, while both Mark and John tell about Jesus walking on the water, only Matthew tells about Peter's attempt to do the same thing. Matthew tells us more about Peter than any of the other Gospels, probably based on a collection of stories not available to the other writers. The Spirit of God led Matthew to use the memories and writings of others, to provide a wonderful interpretation of the King and the kingdom.

The Lesson Explained  
The Peak Of His Popularity

## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

# The Tragedy Of Rejection

By Bill Duncan

Matthew 22:1-14

Weddings are occasions of joy and happiness. Each year I conduct many weddings and I would not take anything for the occasion of presiding over such wonderful times. I share with every bride and groom several things that will help them keep joy in the marriage ceremony. (1) There is "no such thing" as a little wedding. They are all "big" weddings for them and their families, (2) The wedding is a sacred occasion. (3) The plans, the preparation, the anxiety, the work are all worth it when you look back through the years.



There are two ideas I share with the couple as they make their plans that have bearing on the great parable of the Marriage Feast. (1) The couple should make sure the invitations are clear in regard to the wedding events — such as, the rehearsal supper. (2) I want to know what I am to wear. I do not want to be "out of place" by what I have on.

The parable of the wedding feast was intended to be an occasion of joy and fulfillment, but for some it was not. The note of tragedy was struck because some refused to come to the heavenly occasion. The parable tells of one who came but was asked to leave because he had not made adequate preparation and had not considered the sacredness of the occasion.

That which was intended to be happy turned out to be tragic because of the rejection of men. That is a powerful idea. As one studies the parable and all the word of God, this lesson becomes most important.

God never condemns man until after man has turned his back upon him. Thus, God does not reject man but man rejects God's invitation to life. Israel rejected God and was thereby rejected. The judgment of God was neither accidental nor was it a malicious decision by God for no reason at all. Jesus came in love and was murdered. The judgment of God is based upon what man does with

**Don't blame your age for poor hearing**

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In 14:19-21 we have the story of Jesus feeding five thousand men, plus women and children. In the next verse Matthew says, "Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship" to go back across the lake. Why did he make them leave him? We have the answer in John's Gospel. The multitude saw in Jesus' ability to feed them — and probably also his miraculous acts of healing — the resources for a successful earthly ruler. They were ready "to make him a king" (John 6:15). The disciples might have encouraged them.

Peter Falls His Own Test  
Verses 14:25-33

As the disciples rowed across the lake, a westerly wind churned up the waves. They were having a hard time in the darkness when they suddenly saw something or somebody out on the water. Thinking it was a ghost, they screamed in terror. Then Jesus identified himself. Quickly over his fear, Peter was ready to show his cour-

age and faith. If the Master could walk on water, his command could support a disciple in doing the same thing. But Peter had more ambition than faith, and Jesus had to save him from going under. Notice that Jesus did not rebuke Peter's brashness but his deficient faith.

Notice that when the two got into the boat, the wind died down. In that awesome quietness, the disciples showed in some way how they felt about Jesus. "The Son of God" was too much for their little minds — and our own.

A Gentle Woman  
Shows Real Faith  
Verses 15:21-28

When Pharisees came from Jerusalem to Capernaum (probably) and accused Jesus' disciples of violating the "tradition of the elders" about ceremonial cleanliness, Jesus responded that men are not contaminated by what they touch but by what comes from their mouths and

hearts. This struck at their attitudes toward Gentiles and Samaritans.

Then Jesus went into Gentile territory, and a Canaanite woman (Mark calls her a Syrophoenician, a native of Syria's coastland) begged Jesus for mercy on her demon-possessed daughter. When Jesus did not answer, his disciples urged him to send her away because she had continued calling out to them. Only Matthew records Jesus' comment in verse 24; it is a hard saying, but it must be interpreted in light of Jesus' attitude toward all people as well as the thrust of the Great Commission.

But the woman did not give up; she still pled: "Lord, help me." Even when he mentioned children's bread and dogs, she turned the comparison to her own advantage. She was willing to face any testing if the "son of David" would show mercy on her suffering daughter. Jesus not only commended her highly for her faith but also cured her daughter.

refused or disobeyed.

"Rejection of God's gracious invitation to accept Jesus Christ and His Kingdom is an unspeakable tragedy." Too many persons are dying today without Jesus as Saviour because they love their way of life better. Some have a desire for salvation, but on their own terms. Still, there are others who outright hate God.

The man who accepted God's invitation but did not wear a wedding garment, accepted on his own terms. George Buttrick wrote: "Other men made light of the Kingdom and stayed away; but he made light of it and came."

God expects us to enter the banquet hall of grace and salvation on his terms, not our ours. "The grace of God cannot be abused, imposed upon, taken for granted."



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Mississippi Newsbriefs

## Just For The Record



### Merritts Welcomed To Clarke-Venable

Rev. and Mrs. Gus Merritt and children, Victor, 14, and Paula, 9, were given a reception recently, welcoming them to Clarke-Venable Church, Decatur, where Mr. Merritt is the new pastor. Pictured with the Merritts are Clinton Russell, chairman of the Pulpit Committee, and Maston McMullan, chairman of deacons.

### First, Potts Camp Calls Pastor

First Church, Potts Camp has called the Rev. Alvis K. Cooper as pastor. He will replace Dr. James L. Travis, Professor of the Bible Department, Blue Mountain College who has served as interim pastor.

Cooper was born in Lee County at Saitillo. Son of Mrs. Sally A. Cooper and the late A. F. Cooper of Tupelo, he is married to Martha Ann McIlwain, the daughter of Mrs. Edna E. Harmon McIlwain of Starkville. They have two adopted children, Melody Ann, 15 and Marty Ken, 13.

### From Boston

We grant no dukedoms to the few.  
We hold like rights and shall;  
Equal on Sunday in the pew,  
On Monday in the mall;  
For what avail the plough or sail,  
Or land, or life, if freedom fail?  
—Ralph Waldo Emerson



Cooper was a member of the United States Air Force prior to his retirement in February 1975. He was converted to Christ in November 1968 and entered the ministry the same year. He was licensed by the Airport Church, Greenville, and later ordained by the Aschaffenburg Baptist Church, Aschaffenburg, Germany.

While serving in the Air Force, Cooper has served with various ministries of the European Baptist Convention throughout Germany, Italy, and Greece. Throughout his ministry he has helped start the first Southern Baptist Church, Calvary Church, on Guam in 1968-69. At Columbus Air Force Base, Columbus, he worked with the Lowndes County Prison Ministry of Emmanuel Church.

He began a Southern Baptist Fellowship on Binh Thuy Air Base, Vietnam in 1968; served

MEXICO CITY, Mexico—About 30 letters a day are streaming into the Baptist mass media offices here as a result of recently-inaugurated short-wave programming. "Friendship Station" KGEI in San Francisco, Calif., broadcasts Baptist programs twice a day.

with the youth of the Northside Baptist Church, Sacramento, California; taught the on-base Bible Study while at San Vito Air Base, Brindisi, Italy; was pastor of Aschaffenburg Baptist Church in Germany during 1971-72, served as a member of the finance committee of the European Baptist Convention; served in Trinity Baptist Church of Athens, Greece as teacher of the Adult assembly; worked with the bus ministry and youth of College Hills Church, San Angelo, Texas, while stationed at Goodfellow Air Force Base. He moved from Texas back to his native state of Mississippi in February, '75.

Cooper had completed two years of college work with the University of Maryland (European Division) prior to entering Blue Mountain College. He plans to enter seminary after graduation from Blue Mountain in May of 1977.



### Belleview Pastor Given Two Awards

Rev. S. W. Davis, Jr., right, pastor of Belleview, Shelby, received a double surprise on a recent Sunday. Richard Westbrook, left, chairman of deacons, presented to him the Distinguished Award from the City of Shelby's Board of Alderman and Mayor, for his civic services.

Then Mr. Westbrook asked the deacons to come to the front; he announced that it was S. W. Davis, Jr. Appreciation Day, and presented a plaque of appreciation to the pastor, above, from the church.

Appreciation was extended for Mr. Davis' service as pastor, as president of the Rotary Club, member of the Shelby Chamber of Commerce, and volunteer with the Shelby Fire Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis and their son, Paul, have been on the Belleview field for over two years.



### Hamiltons Honored At Highland

Curtis Irby, Sunday School director at Highland, Meridian is shown presenting Rev. and Mrs. J. Carroll Hamilton and family a gift on the occasion of the beginning of their fourth year as pastor and family of the church. Left to right: Lyn, Mr. Irby, Mrs. Hamilton, Jon, Rev. Hamilton, Amos Collins, Chairman of Deacons, and Lisa. Highland has shown substantial growth under the ministry of Mr. Hamilton. During his pastorate there have been 214 additions to the church and the financial growth has doubled to the amount of \$342,000.00.

## Sessoms, Robertson To Lead Church Recreation Mini-Lab

Bob Sessoms and Everett Robertson, consultants in the Church Recreation Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville will headline a Church Recreation Mini-Lab for Mississippi in May, according to Norman A. Rodgers, consultant for Church Recreation with the Mississippi Church Training Department.

Alt Woods Church, Jackson, will host the state-wide Church Recreation Mini-Lab on May 2-4. The program will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday and conclude at 5:30 on Tuesday. Included will be opportunities for each person attending to participate in five conferences as well as to be involved in experiences in church recreation during the two-day program.

Everett Robertson, consultant in drama, will be responsible for conferences in that area, as well as the production of some dramatic activities. Sessoms is a general consultant in church recreation.

Additional personnel to be secured will make this the outstanding

### At McDowell Road February 9

## Pearl River Pastors, Laymen To Tell About "Glorious Revival"

Pastors and laymen will go to Jackson, Monday night, Feb. 9, to share with Jackson churches testimonies about the "glorious revival" that is sweeping the churches of Pearl River County. The sharing service will be held at the McDowell Road Church, Jackson.

Bill Duncan pastor, First Baptist Church, Picayune, described the revival as "a baptism of love in the lives of pastors and church members." Marvin Lee, associational missionary, says, "Churches have quit having church services and are having worship experiences, worshipping God and the full glory of Jesus, sharing His

## Bahamas Radio Station Names Baptist Pastor 'Woman Of Year'

The Radio Bahamas station ZNS recently conducted a poll of its listeners for the nomination of women of the year in several cat-

egories. Cited as Woman of the Year 1975 in Religion was Rev. Lavania Stewart, pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Nassau.

Rev. Lavania Stewart was born in May, 1919, in Bannerman Town, Eleuthera, Bahamas, and received her primary education on that island. She attended Southern Secondary School Continuation Classes and Eastern Secondary School Continuation Classes in Nassau, and has continued her education by attending classes in the Nassau Technical College and the College of the Bahamas, as well as the Bahamas Baptist Bible Institute.

In 1947 Rev. Stewart married Rev. Henry Stewart, and they had five children. Her husband was pastor of Salem Mission Baptist Church for a number of years, leaving there to establish Mt. Zion Baptist Church in 1965. He died in 1969 and Lavania Stewart was ordained and became pastor of the church in 1971. Due to the illness of her husband, she had been performing a major portion of the pastoral duties since the inception of the church.

Mrs. Stewart was earlier awarded the Queen's Badge and Certificate of Honour for religious activities. She serves on the Juvenile Panel and works part time with court magistrates.

Nilsen Fanini, pastor of First Baptist Church of Niterol, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was named vice president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, to a two-year term as chairman.

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church, Houston, is finance chairman for the Lausanne Committee.



### MC Receives Special Recognition

Mississippi College has received special recognition from Gov. Cliff Finch and the Mississippi Legislature on the occasion of its 150th birthday celebration. Sen. Sam Wright of Clinton (second from right) read the proclamations, one of the first for the new administration, and presented copies to Dr. Lewis Nobles, college president. From the left are Rep. Wayne Burkes; Dr. Nobles; Sen. Wright; and Eddie Graves, Ripley, president of the Student Body Association. Mississippi College was founded in January, 1826, and is the oldest institution of higher learning in the state. (M. C. Photo by Bob Ramps)



EXAMINING ARTIFACTS—Looking at a wide array of items to be found in the Mississippi College History Museum are, left to right, Phyllis Conlee of Clinton, Randy Boyett of Baton Rouge, La., and Carol Dempsey of Memphis, Tenn., all students at the college. Mounted on the wall behind them is the museum's arrowhead collection which is one of the largest and finest of its kind in the state. (M. C. Photo by Bob Ramps)

## Devotional



## Happy Birthday, America!

By Pat Nowell, Pastor, First, Tunica

We are now celebrating our nation's two hundredth birthday—our bicentennial. You have probably already read in print and seen on television the words "Happy Birthday, America!" During this year of bicentennial observance, let us look backward at the 200 years of our nation and forward to the years that hopefully lie ahead.

**A Backward Look.** The observance of our bicentennial affords us an excellent opportunity to look at what our country has become. God has given America a great government. We enjoy freedom and liberty that people in many countries only dream about. Every citizen has ample reason to bow his head humbly every day and pray, "Thank you, Lord, for allowing me to be born in the grandest, greatest and freest country the world has ever known." Our chests should swell with pride every time we see The Stars and Stripes being raised to the top of a flag pole. We should experience goose pimples every time we hear sung "The Star Spangled Banner." We should add a fervent "Amen!" every time we sing "God Bless America." With fervency, sincerity and humility, therefore, let us sing:

This is my country! Land of my birth.

This is my country! Grandest on Earth!  
I pledge thee my allegiance, America the bold.

For this is my country, To have and hold.

**A Forward Look.** The men who led in the framing of the Declaration of Independence were prompted by a magnificent dream. This dream involved freedoms that amazed the rest of the world. This dream was rooted in the Word of God, the Bible. As we approach the 200th birthday of our country, the question we need to ask ourselves is, Is the American dream over? Will we deteriorate from within morally and spiritually? Are we living in the period of the decline and fall of America? One of the most widely read books of all time is *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. This book was written in 1788 by Edward Gibbons, a noted English historian. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations, Gibbons pointed out, has been 200 years. What is the future of America?

Although America may be in danger, I most assuredly contend that it is not too late to turn around and come back to the dreams and virtues and principles that have made this country great. We need to approach the problems besetting America with a resolute mind and deal with them with a firm hand. One such example is Samuel Conti, the U. S. District Judge who sentenced Sara Jane Moore, would-be assassin of President Ford. Judge Conti, who has a reputation for being stern, has criticized the leniency of our penal and judicial systems and has been quoted as saying, "I didn't become a judge to preside over the decline and fall of the American Republic."

Again and again, when we have been at the breaking point, America has experienced spiritual and moral revivals that have saved us from destruction. Let each of us pray that that will happen again, and that it will begin within my heart!

### Southeastern Seminary Plans Lolley Inauguration

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)—William Randall Lolley will be inaugurated by Southeastern Seminary as its third president on March 11.

Lolley became the third president of Southeastern Seminary

on Aug. 1, 1974, succeeding Olin T. Binkley, who had served as president since 1963.

Lolley, a native of Samson, Ala., is a graduate of Howard College, now Sanford University, Birmingham. He earned bachelor of divinity and master of theology degrees from Southeastern Seminary and the doctor of theology degree from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth.

## The State Baptist Papers -----

(Continued From Page 5)

strate how Baptists somehow maintain unity in the midst of diversity. This has been the story of Southern Baptists from their beginning.

These papers in the end are a very important channel of information to the layman and minister alike concerning the work of the denomination.

By reading his Baptist state paper, a Southern Baptist can keep abreast of the news of Baptists both at home and abroad. Yet these publications are more than mere news couriers. They also present on occasion the ugly and controversial side of many issues of concern to their readers.

Finally, the papers are a prophetic voice to the people on the Bible, doctrine, Baptist polity, and social issues. They do not foretell the future but they do try to speak a word from the Lord to their readers.

The Baptist state papers are a living testimony of what Baptists are and have been. They bear the diversity of unique individualism, yet they also embody unusual unity. They perform a service to Baptists everywhere. We would be poorer without them.



Trip To The Holy Land

Members of Ridgeland Church have presented their pastor and wife, the Rev. and Mrs. W. Everett Martin, a letter of appreciation with a check enclosed to cover all expenses for a trip to the Holy Land. The trip will take place during March. Martin has been pastor of Ridgeland for almost two years. Above, Raymond McClure, chairman of deacons, presents check to the Martins.

## Off The Record

"Father," asked Junior, "what is a financial genius?"

"A financial genius, my son," replied the father thoughtfully, "is a man who can pay his family's Christmas bills in January."

A teacher was giving the 6th grade an arithmetic test.

"Jack," she quizzed, "if a farmer had 5,000 bushels of corn to market at \$1.20 a bushel, what would he get?"

Came the prompt response: "A government loan!"

"What's your birthstone, Daddy?"

"I think it's the grindstone, Son."

College

A father and son were posing for a picture at the time of the young man's graduation from college.

"Stand a little closer to your father," said the photographer, "and put your hand on his shoulder."

"I think it would be more appropriate," said the father, "if he stood with his hand in my pocket."

Farmer

A small girl from the city was making her first visit to the country and on her first night to the farm, went to the barn to see the cows milked.

The next morning, the hired man came running with the news that one of the cows had been stolen.

"Don't worry," said the city girl. "She won't get far. We drained her crankcase last night."

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